2 TIME KILLING ARC

Higurashi
WHEN THEY CRY

STORY BY
RYUKISHI07

ART BY
YOSHIKI TONOGAI

Higurashi
WHEN THEY CRY
TIME KILLING ARC

WHO IS THE CULPRIT, YOU ASK?

OBVIOUSLY THE POINT OF THIS STORY IS TO FIND THAT OUT.

WHO IS THE CULPRIT, YOU ASK?

DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT THE CRIME IS?

WHO IS THE CULPRIT?

WHO IS THE CULPRIT WHO WILL KILL ME!?

Higurashi WHEN THEY CRY
TIME KILLING ARC

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CHAPTER 5: CONTACT

YOU'RE TOSHIKI INUKAI-KUN?

AND YOUR GRAND-FATHER'S THE MINISTER OF CONSTRUC-TION...?

ｽｯ
SU (BRUSH)

WOULD YOU...

SUUU (LOOM)

...COME WITH ME?

DA (DASH)

UWAAAAAAAHH!

ZOKU (CHILL)

SOMEBODY HELP ME...

SOMEBODY ...!!

H-HELP ME, PLEASE!

BA (BAM)

A MAN I DON'T KNOW SUDDENLY—

DON (WHAM)

!!

IF YOU COME QUIETLY...

WE WON'T BE TOO ROUGH WITH YOU.

.....

~~~

GABU (CHOMP)
~~~

HEY, THAT HURTS.

.....?

ZUZU (ZZHH)

IF YOU STRUGGLE TOO MUCH...

ZURU (SLIP)

...YOU'LL STRIP THE FLESH RIGHT OFF.

DO (THUNK)

GOOD MORNING.

.....!!

PFFT!

MMMMM!!

MMM!!

THE KID'S CRYING AGAIN!

DID YOU HAVE PLEASANT DREAMS?

PARA (FLUTTER)

DON'T HAVE TOO MUCH FUN WITH 'IM.

THE HEAD FAMILY TOLD US TO HANDLE WITH CARE.

HEY.

ジョオオ…

JOOO (PSSHO

AWW, BUT...

HOW LONG ARE WE GONNA BE HIDING IN HERE?

OH, COME ON.

YOU JUST HAVE TO HANG IN THERE A LITTLE LONGER...

THERE'S NOTHING TO DO BUT MESS WITH THE KID!

Kh—

Khh kh...

.....!?

HEH.

HEH HEH HEH.

WHAT?

A MESSAGE FROM TOKYO.

OH!

THEY SAY THE GREEDY CARP...

...TOOK THE BAIT.

NITAAA (LEER)

AN ORDER TO RELEASE TOSHIKI-KUN!?

B-BUT OOISHI-SAN!

THAT WOULD MEAN—

YES...

NIKO (GRIN)

ニコッ

IT'S JUST A RUMOR.

I HAPPENED TO HEAR IT BEFORE YOU ARRIVED AT THE PRECINCT.

THEIR DEMANDS HAVE BEEN MET...

THE DAM PROJECT HAS BEEN CANCELED.

...EVERY-THING...

...IS STARTING TO HAPPEN JUST THE WAY RIKA-CHAN SAID IT WOULD.

IN THAT CASE...

...WOULD I REGRET?

WHAT EXACTLY ...

YOU WILL REGRET HAVING COME TO THIS VILLAGE.

OOISHI-SAN?

WHAT'S THE MATTER?

!

...IT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT WE'RE AFTER THE CULPRIT.

WELL, WHETHER THE RUMOR IS TRUE OR NOT...

THAT SHACK...

BUT THEY'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE USING IT IN THE SUMMER.

!

IT BELONGS TO FOREST SERVICES.

IS THERE SOMETHING ABOUT IT?

THEN ...

IT CERTAINLY DOESN'T LOOK LIKE AN OFFICIAL VEHICLE.

SO THAT CAR...

.....

...WHOSE CAR IS IT, I WONDER.

THIS IS OOISHI. COME IN.

ZAAA (ZZHHH)

GACHA (CLICK)

JUST IN CASE ...

...MAYBE I'LL CALL IN SOME INSURANCE.

RAIN...?

DO (DRIP)

AKASAKA-SAN, ARE YOU EMOTIONALLY PREPARED FOR THIS?

I'M READY ANY TIME!

THAT SHOULD DO IT.

GACHA (CLICK)

NOW THEN...

WILL WE GET A DEMON OR A SNAKE ...?

...WHO IS IT?

IS ANYONE IN?

EXCUSE ME!

GAN (RAP)

GAN

.....

GOKU (GULP)

ゴクッ

WOULD YOU MIND OPENING THE DOOR A MOMENT?

I'M WITH THE POLICE.

GARA (RATTLE)

ガラ

WELL? CAN I HELP YOU WITH SOMETHING?

NIKO (GRIN)

...WITH THIS SUDDEN SHOWER.

MUST BE ROUGH OUT THERE ...

I HEARD THAT THIS WAS A STOREHOUSE FOR FOREST SERVICES.

SUI (PEER)

OH? THAT'S STRANGE.

MAYBE YOU'RE THINKING OF SOME-WHERE ELSE?

THIS PLACE'S BEEN EMPTY FOR A LONG WHILE NOW.

...OH.

HUH.

BUT IT DOES BELONG TO FOREST SERVICES, RIGHT...?

I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU BEFORE.

.....

ARE YOU WITH THE FOREST SERVICES?

YOU'RE WITH THE OKINOMIYA POLICE, AREN'T YOU?

SU (BRUSH)

スッ

THEN WE MUST HAVE MET BEFORE...

HA HA

OH, MAN...

HYU (SWISH)

HE WENT RIGHT FOR MY EYES!?

シュッ…

SHUUU (SSHHH)

!

BA (DUCK)

THIS GUY...

ZA

ZA (WHOOSH)

...IS NO AMA-TEUR!

TCH.

PAN

PAN (WHACK)

BE A GOOD FATTY...

GURA (SWOOND)

DO (WHAM)

GHOH!

AND LIE AROUND LIKE FATTIES'RE SUPPOSED TO!!

DOGA (KAPOW)

GIRO (GLARE)

BIRI TENSE

BIRI

HAMMERING AT ME WITH THOSE LITTLE TRICKS...

GASH (CLAMP)

IT'S ANNOYING ALREADY !!

DO (WHAM)

SHUU (SSHH)

SO THE KID MUST BE AT THE BACK DOOR, WHERE AKASAKA-SAN IS...

GUH ...!

ZAZA (SKID)

NOW THEN.

TIME TO SHOW YOU HOW STRONG WE FATTIES CAN BE!

TCH!

GU! (TUG)

TCH!

NO DOUBT ABOUT IT... THAT'S THE MINISTER'S GRANDSON!

THAT WOULD MAKE HIM THE KIDNAPPER ...

SURRENDER AND COME QUIETLY!!

...ALL RIGHT!

GOKU (GULP)

YOU CAN'T RUN ANY-MORE!!

OUR REIN-FORCEMENTS WILL BE HERE ANY MINUTE!

DA (DASH)

WHAT KIND OF IDIOT...

.....

GIVE THE BOY TO ME!

...WOULD HAND HIM OVER JUST 'COS YOU ASKED!!?

GA (WHACK)

IN THAT CASE ...

GIRI (GRIT)

GUGU (STRAIN)

...I'LL TAKE HIM BACK BY FORCE!

!

HOLDING THE KID PUTS ME AT A DISADVANTAGE. SO...

ZAZA (SKID)

ZA

WHOA !?

GO (WHAM)

BA (FWOOSH)

!!

!?

PARA

PARA (PATTER)

A BLINDING ATTACK ...!?

STOP !!

DA (DASH)

GUH ...!

ST-

PASHA

PASHA (SPLASH)

HUFF

HUFF

NO...

DAM-MIT!

PASHA

PASHA

I LOST HIM...

HUFF

HUFF

IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE I CATCH UP TO HIM...

HE COULDN'T HAVE PUT THAT MUCH DISTANCE BETWEEN US!

HE'S CARRYING THE BOY.

I JUST HAVE TO BLOCK IT AND COUNTER ...

BA (WHOOSH)

AN AMBUSH !?

THAT'S THE SAME ATTACK AS BEFORE.

THAT'S OKAY!

DA (DASH)

GO (WHAM)

HAH ...

KAH ...

WE'VE COME SO FAR, YOUR FRIENDS WON'T BE HERE FOR A WHILE...

DOSA (THUD)

LIKE HELL I'D LOSE TO YOU WITH MY HANDICAP GONE...

I WON'T LET YOU GET AWAY ...

GYU (SQUEEZE)

GASP

I...

GASP

SO HEY...

DOWN THERE, YOU'RE JUST A PUNCHING BAG...

BA (LUNGE)

DO (WHAM)

ARE YOU STUPID OR WHAT?

DO

HA !!

THEN...

SU (SHFF)

TCH.

STUBBORN BASTARD.

GUGU (SQUEEZE)

I...

WON'T LET YOU GET AWAY ...

...HOW ABOUT THIS?

GO (WHAM)

.....

AH ...

AH...
...
HAH
...
GAH
...

GUSHA
SPLATTER

GOSHA (SPLOOSH)

I WASTED A LOT OF TIME HERE.

MMM!!

BUN (SHAKE)

COME ON! LET'S GO.

MMMM!!

BUN

MMM!!

DON'T STRUGGLE SO MUCH!

YUKIE...

MARRY YOU?

I'D LOVE TO... BUT...

THERE'S ONE THING ...

...I WANT YOU TO PROMISE ME.

PROMISE?

NO MATTER WHERE YOU GO...

ZAZA (SHH)

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS...

PLEASE ...

...ALWAYS COME BACK TO ME.

COME ON!

BUN (SHAKE)

GET GOING.

BUN

PIKU (TWITCH)

GET MOVING OR THE COPS'LL ...

CAN'T YOU JUST DIE ...!?

GO (WHAM)

RRRAAGH!!

DA (DASH)

I TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I...?

GASHI (CLAMP)

GAH ...!

I'M TAKING HIM BACK BY FORCE!

DO (WHAM)

...YOU'RE...

BIKU (WINCE)

HUFF

PIKU (TWITCH)

HUFF

PIKU

TOSHIKI INUKAI-KUN... RIGHT?

BERI (PEEL)

PASHA (SPLISH)

PARA (FLUTTER)

ARE YOU HURT?

IT'S...

...GOING TO BE OKAY.

PORO

PORO (DRIP)

UWAAAHH!!

HUFF

I'M GLAD YOU'RE SAFE...

HUFF

REALLY GLAD...

GASA (RUSTLE)

!!

NOW...

WE JUST NEED TO WAIT FOR OOISHI-SAN OR OUR BACKUP TO ARRIVE...

OOISHI-SAN!

HUFF

HUFF

RUN...

I HAVE TOSHIKI-KUN IN CUSTODY!

HO (WHEW)

YOU'RE ALL RIGHT...

AKASAKA-SAN...

BURA (STAGGER)

AND I'VE KNOCKED OUT ONE OF THE KIDNAPPERS!

10

PAN (BANG)

...EH?

...DAMN.

YOU TOOK GOOD CARE OF MY PARTNER.

KH ...!

ZAZA (SKID)

MISTER!

THE MAIN HOUSE DONE TOLD ME...

...NOT TO KILL ANYBODY IF I DIDN'T HAVE TO, BUT I GUESS I WENT TOO EASY ON YOU...

IT... IT'S OKAY.

DOKU (DRIP)

DOKU

!

ZA (WHIP)

UNDER-ESTIMATING ME COULD GET YOU KILLED.

PUBLIC SECURITY BRAT!

CHAPTER 6:-LIBERTY

ZAAAA (WHOOOSH)

HEH HEH HEH.

GO (GULP)

!?

NII (CLEER)

YOU'RE SHAKING.

WHAT HAPPENED TO ALL THAT SPUNK YOU HAD?

PUBLIC SECURITY BRAT.

(SUH (REACH)

DO

YOU—

(YORO (STAGGER)

OWW ...

BA (WHOOSH)

I'M GONNA KILL YOU!!

OH NO...!

BIKU (WINCE)

HE HAD A GUN TOO!?

TWO AGAINST ONE... AND...

...OOISHI-SAN IS THE ONLY ONE OF US WHO HAD A GUN.

BOSO
(WHISPER)

BA
(JUMP)

!?

KOKU
(NOD)

.....

HEY!!

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU WHISPERING ABOUT...

DA
(DASH)

!?

DA (DASH)

YOU! AFTER THE KID!!

BA (RUSH)

GOT IT!!

TCH.

YOU TRYING TO LET THE KID GET AWAY...!?

SHURU (SHWIP)

GO (WHAMO)

ZUH (SLIP)

BFF !?

DON'T THINK GUNS ARE THE ONLY WEAPONS.

SFX: KACHA (CLICK)

WHY, YOU ...

YOU WANT TO DIE THAT BADLY!!?

GU (CLENCH)

THAT'S AS FAR AS YOU GO!

FREEZE.

NICE TEAM-WORK.

THANK YOU, SIR...

WHEN AKASAKA-SAN MADE HIS MOVE.

IF I HADN'T BEEN CONSCIOUS, AS BRAVE AS AKASAKA-SAN IS...

PIKU (TWITCH)

...HE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN *THAT* CRAZY.

NI (SNIRK)

DAMMIT, WHEN DID YOU...?

FATTY ...

GIRI (GRIT)

ALL RIGHT, I SURRENDER.

THIS IS OUR CHANCE...

YEAH, I'LL PUT IT DOWN NOW.

I CAN'T RUN ANY-MORE.

MY PARTNER'S OUT COLD.

NOW PUT YOUR GUN DOWN AND BOTH HANDS IN THE AIR.

...WISE DECISION.

DON (BOOM)

!?

AH ...!

DA (DASH)

GA (GRAB)

AKA-SAKA-SAN!!

HE TRICKED US!?

...TCH!

GASA (RUSTLE)

BA (TROMP)

BA (TURN)

I CAN'T LEAVE AKASAKA-SAN...

NNGH...

IT ONLY GRAZED HIS LEG...

BUT...

GABA (LUNGE)

AKASAKA-SAN!! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT!?

NGH ...!

TCH.

THIS IS BAD...

DOKU (DRIP)

DOKU

JIWA (OOZE)

HE'S LOST TOO MUCH BLOOD.

HIS HEAD AND SHOULDER ...

YOU WAIT HERE!

DA (DASH)

I'M GOING TO GET HELP!

AKASAKA-SAN! HANG IN THERE.

...WAS OOISHI-SAN SHOUTING ...?

WHAT...

I CAN'T FEEL ANY-THING...

YUKIE...

I'M SORRY... I MIGHT NEVER BE ABLE TO SEE YOU AGAIN.

...I CAN'T SEE ANY-THING.

IS SOMEONE THERE...?

.....?

OH...

BUT YOU KNOW, RIKA-CHAN...

IS THIS WHAT SHE MEANT ...?

YOU WILL REGRET HAVING COME HERE.

I MEAN ...

THIS IS THE RESULT OF STAYING TRUE TO MY CONVICTIONS TO THE END...

I DON'T REGRET IT.

I'M SORRY ...

I STILL CAN'T HEAR YOU...

KURU SPIN

AH...

WAIT, RIKA-CHAN.

WAIT ...

...EH?

?

ZZZZZ

...IT WAS A DREAM?

PLEASE, LET HIM SLEEP.

GISHI (CREAK)

ZZZZZ

TOSHIKI-KUN...

...WHERE AM I?

...HASN'T LEFT YOUR SIDE SINCE YOU ARRIVED.

THAT BOY...

NIKO (GRIN)

YOU WERE UNCONSCIOUS IN THE MOUNTAINS. A POLICE OFFICER CARRIED YOU HERE.

A CLINIC IN HINAMI-ZAWA.

SIGN: IRIE CLINIC

WELL, WELL. I SEE YOU'RE FINALLY AWAKE.

FORTUNATELY YOUR LEG INJURY WAS JUST A SCRATCH, BUT WE STILL NEED TO EXAMINE THE WOUNDS ON YOUR HEAD.

PLEASE REST FOR A WHILE.

I WILL.

CALL ME RIGHT AWAY IF ANYTHING HAPPENS.

...WELL, HOW ARE WE DOING?

STILL IN PAIN?

OOISHI-SAN...

NN FU FU

IRIE-SENSEI, MAY I BORROW AKASAKA-SAN FOR A MINUTE?

OWWW ...

IF YOU'RE ACTING LIKE THAT, YOU MUST BE FINE.

ズキ!! ZUKI (STING)

ズキ ZUKI

BA (LUNGE)

OOISHI-SAN!

WHAT ABOUT THE KID-NAPPERS ...!?

I SEE...

I DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY DISAPPEARED TO.

UNFORTUNATELY WE CAN'T FIND A SINGLE TRACE OF THEM.

KACHI (CLICK)

...EITHER THEY RAN TO ANOTHER PREFECTURE OR THE VILLAGE IS HIDING THEM.

...ARE TELLING ME NOT TO STICK MY NOSE IN ANY FURTHER.

BUT...YOUR FRIENDS AT PUBLIC SECURITY...

WELL, WE WON'T LET THEM GET AWAY.

FUU (WHEW)

GYU (CLENCH)

...THAT'S RIGHT.

THE KIDNAPPING WAS COVERED UP.

THE FACT THAT THIS BOY...

ZZZZZ

...THE MINISTER'S GRANDSON, WAS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY WILL BE KEPT SECRET.

AND... IF...

FUU (WHEW)

IF THEY MADE A DEAL WITH THE MINISTER...

...I'M SO SORRY.

EXCUSE ME?

...IT WILL BE LIKE THIS WHOLE INCIDENT NEVER HAPPENED ...

GIRI (GRIT)

AKASAKA-SAN.

GISHI (CREAK)

...AND THIS IS HOW IT ENDS UP...

YOU WENT TO SO MUCH TROUBLE TO HELP ME...

ぽん、

PON (PAT)

THE BOY IS SAFE.

ISN'T THAT *GOOD* ENOUGH?

WE BOTH GET OUR WAGES FROM THE SUN DISC, THAT'S ALL.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

OOISHI-SAN...

AT ANY RATE...

THIS IS THE END...

...OF OUR DEMON EXTERMI-NATING.

GOOD WORK.

IT WAS A THRILLING PLEASURE.

...YES, SIR.

WHY NOT PRETEND YOUR INJURIES ARE SERIOUS AND STAY IN OKINOMIYA A WHILE?

HUH?

OH YEAH, AKASAKA-SAN.

THERE ARE STILL PLENTY OF PLACES I WANT TO SHOW YOU.

AND SATO-SAN WAS SAYING HE WANTS TO PLAY MAHJONG AGAIN.

HA... HA-HA.

I WANT TO GET HOME SOON AND LET MY WIFE SEE MY FACE...

AH !?

AWWW.

I'M SORRY, THAT WILL HAVE TO WAIT FOR ANOTHER TIME...

I'M GOING TO MAKE A PHONE CALL!!

DA (DASH)

.....

I NEED A PHONE !!

GABA (LUNGE)

BIKU (WINCE)

THE POWER OF LOVE IS A GRAND THING...

GAMI (LECTURE)

GAMI

AKASAKA-SAN! NO RUNNING IN THE HALLS!!

HA HA.

NO SMOKING IN THE CLINIC!!

PORO (FALL)

KA (GLARE)

AND YOU, DETECTIVE!

HA HA

BUT...

WHEN I THINK ABOUT HEARING YUKIE'S VOICE, I CAN PUT UP WITH IT.

OWW ...

KA (CLACK)

MY BODY HURTS ALL OVER...

WILL THIS BE ENOUGH?

ALL RIGHT!

IT'S NOT AFTER HOURS FOR CALLING THE HOSPITAL...

.....?

CHARI (JINGLE)

I SHOULD HAVE MADE SURE TO HAVE MORE READY...

THERE'S ...

NO TONE ...?

GACHA ガチャ

GACHA (CLICK) ガチャ

10R

OF COURSE.

NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I TRY IT, IT WON'T WORK...

3 2

SLOT: 10 YEN

DOES PHONE SERVICE WORK HERE?

WELL, IT SHOULD...

NURSE!

YES?

THE OFFICE...?

I WONDER WHAT'S WRONG...

NO...I'LL LOOK FOR A PUBLIC PHONE OUTSIDE.

AH...!

IF YOU DON'T MIND, I COULD LET YOU USE THE ONE IN THE OFFICE.

PLEASE DON'T BE OUT TOO LATE.

SIGN: IRIE CLINIC

.....?

HONESTLY. HE SHOULDN'T BE SO RECKLESS. HE'S HURT.

KANA (CHIRP)

KANA

KANA

HUFF

IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE I'VE BEEN ABLE TO TALK TO HER.

HUFF

I DON'T WANT TO HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT PEOPLE BEING AROUND...

BUT...

ZA (CRUNCH)

THIS PHONE'S ...

...LINE WAS CUT?

...I SURE AM HAVING A HARD TIME FINDING A PHONE...

I HAVEN'T COME ACROSS A SINGLE PERSON TO ASK FOR DIRECTIONS ...

HUFF

THIS IS RIDICU-LOUS.

I SHOULD HAVE ASKED HER WHERE TO FIND A PHONE BOOTH.

AH!

KA (CLACK)

IT'S TIMES LIKE THIS THAT I HATE HOW QUIET HINAMIZAWA IS...

HURRY ... HURRY.

GOSO (RUMMAGE)

I CAN'T WASTE ANY TIME.

GOSO

I SHOULD STILL HAVE TIME...

I WANT TO HEAR YUKIE'S VOICE...

EVERY MINUTE, EVERY SECOND THAT I CAN...!

SUH (REACH)

THERE'S ONE...!

PITA (PAUSE)

.....

IT'S BROKEN ...?

IT WAS CUT WITH SCISSORS OR SOMETHING ...

WHO WOULD PLAY A PRANK LIKE THIS...?

...NO.

...MAKES ME EVEN MORE TIRED NOW...

ALL THAT ANTICIPATION I HAD...

...DID I IMAGINE IT...?

KURU (SPIN)

?

I FELT LIKE...

...SOME-ONE WAS WATCHING ME.

...HA HA.

DID THE KIDNAPPERS COME TO GET RID OF EVERY-ONE WHO'S SEEN THEIR FACES...?

IT COULDN'T BE.

I NEED TO HURRY.

I DON'T HAVE THAT MUCH TIME...

KA (CLACK)

14

I'M THINKING TOO HARD...

GACHA (KACHAK)

STILL...

H

HUFF

HUFF

.....

I DIDN'T REALIZE HOW EXHAUSTING IT IS TO USE A CRUTCH...

I...

I CAN'T FIND ONE...

POTSUUUN (SHOOOM)

HUFF

HUFF

THIS IS BAD.

IF IT GETS ANY DARKER, I WON'T BE ABLE TO GET BACK.

I MIGHT ...

GACHA (CLICK)

...STILL HAVE TIME!!

I HAVE TO AT LEAST TELL HER...

CHA

...THAT I'M DONE WORKING, AND I'LL SEE HER SOON...

THERE'S ONE...!!

IT CAN'T BE...

DID SOMEONE DO THIS TO THE CLINIC'S PHONE TOO...?

...AGAIN?

IT'S CUT...

.....

PHONE: PICK UP THE RECEIVER, INSERT 10 YEN, AND TURN THE DIAL. WHEN DONE SPEAKING, REPLACE THE RECEIVER AND YOUR CHANGE WILL RETURN.

ばっ
BA (JUMP)
!?
THERE IT IS AGAIN ...
IT WASN'T MY IMAG-INATION!
IS SOMEONE FOLLOWING ME...?
ZOKU (CHILL)

...
SOMEONE THERE?

PETA (STEP)

ペタ

PETA

ペタ

.....

PETA

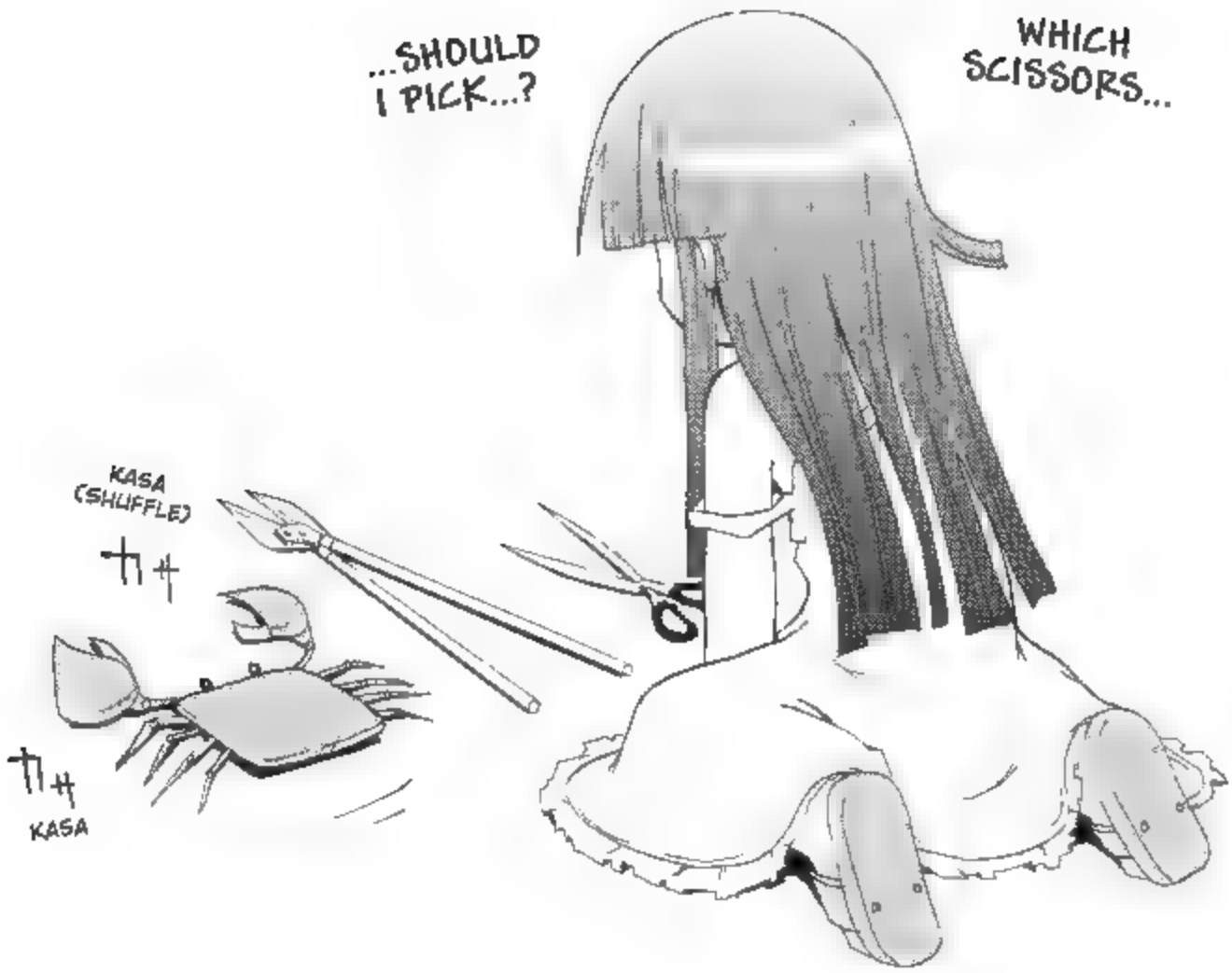
ペタ

IS...

RIKA-CHAN ...?

PETA

PETA STEP


...SHOULD I PICK...?
WHICH SCISSORS...
KASA (SHUFFLE)
KASA

CHAPTER 7: FATE

RIKA-CHAN ...?

WH-

ZA (CRUNCH)

WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE?

IT...

IT CAN'T BE...

YOU'RE ...

...THE ONE WHO CUT ALL THE CORDS?

DID YOU KNOW THAT I WANTED TO MAKE A PHONE CALL...

BOKU (GULP)

.....

...AND BEAT ME TO ALL OF THEM?

WHY WOULD YOU DO THIS!?

WH-

GYU (CLENCH)

WHY...?

WHY!?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, SIR.

NIPA (BEAM)

...EH?

YOU DON'T KNOW ...?

THEN WHAT ARE THOSE SCISSORS IN YOUR HAND FOR ...?

YOU DON'T... HAVE SCIS-SORS?

?

NIPAAA (BEEEAM)

I... I'M NOT SCARED!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING...? AH-HA-HA-HA-HA!

YOU'RE A SCAREDY CAT, AKASAKA, SIR.

KAAAA (BLUUUSH)

...NOTH-ING ANY-MORE...

HA-HA-HA...?

GYU (TUG)

RIKA-CHAN?

THERE'S ...

...FOR YOU TO DO TONIGHT, SIR.

EVEN IF YOU FIND A PHONE, IT WILL BE TOO LATE.

...THAT'S TRUE.

AND I GUESS MY BODY'S ABOUT AT IT'S LIMIT TOO...

DWW...

ZUKI

I AM OUT OF TIME...

ZUKI (STING)

AFTER ALL THAT HARD WORK, THE PHONE I FIND IS...

PON (PAT)

YOU'RE RIGHT...

...FIRST THING TOMORROW MORNING.

FUU (SIGH)

I'LL CALL YUKIE...

KURU (SPIN)

THAT'S GOOD.

I'LL BE GOOD AND GO BACK TO THE HOSPITAL.

.....

PA (RELEASE)

THAT'S THE WRONG WAY, SIR.

PITA (STOP)

DO YOU KNOW HOW TO GET BACK THERE, SIR?

HA HA.

OF COURSE I DO...

KA (CLACK)

NIPAA (BEEAM)

DO YOU... KNOW THE WAY?

...RIKA-CHAN.

W-WAIT A MINUTE...

HURRY UP, SIR.

...FOR LOST AKASAKA.

TA (SKIP)

I WILL SHOW THE WAY...

OWWWW!!

RIBBIT.

RIBBIT.

WON'T YOUR PARENTS BE ANGRY?

SHOULD YOU BE OUT WALKING AROUND THIS LATE?

"JIII (STAAARE)

RIKA-CHAN.

I'M SURE THEY'RE WORRIED.

PYON (HOP)

THEY WOULDN'T DO THAT.

I'M SURE THEY'VE FORGOTTEN ABOUT ME, SIR.

SOOOO (SNEEEAK)

MY PARENTS HAVE A BUSY DAY TODAY.

HAA

HAA (HUFF)

KURU (SPIN)

THAT'S OKAY, SIR.

IT'S MUCH MORE FUN GETTING TO TALK TO YOU, AKASAKA.

AND YOU SHOULDN'T SNEAK OUT OF THE CLINIC EITHER.

GIKU (GULP)

ERK ...

NIPA (BEAM)

THAT'S NOT FAIR, SIR!

MEW.

KURU

I... I'M AN ADULT, SO IT'S OKAY.

WHAT WAS I SO AFRAID OF...?

THE KID-NAPPING CASE IS OVER.

NOTHING ELSE COULD HAPPEN.

AH HA HA.

HEE!

THE INCIDENT AT HINA-MIZAWA...

...IS OVER...

YOU SAID YOUR PARENTS HAD A BUSY DAY TODAY?

...OH YEAH, RIKA-CHAN.

BANNER: STOP THE DAM

BANNER: DEFEND HINAMIZAWA TO THE DEATH

BANNER: STOP THE DAM

BANNER: DEFEND HINAMIZAWA TO THE DEATH

?

WHAT WERE THEY BUSY DOING...?

.....

THE SHRINE AT THE TOP IS WHERE YOU LIVE, RIGHT, RIKA-CHAN?

THIS PLACE...

IT SOUNDS PRETTY LIVELY UP THERE...

FESTIVAL?

IT'S THE DAY OF THE FESTIVAL, SIR.

THE BEST AND ONLY FESTIVAL IN HINAMI-ZAWA...

THE COTTON DRIFTING FESTIVAL.

COTTON... DRIFTING?

THEY CALL IT A FESTIVAL, BUT IT'S JUST A DULL LITTLE THING.

SIGN: DOWN WITH THE DAM

BANNER: DOWN WITH THE DAM

.....

...WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE A LOOK, SIR?

NIPA (BEAM)

HUFF

HUFF

WAS THIS STAIRWAY THIS LONG BEFORE?

.....

MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE PASSED ON THIS ONE...

HUFF

HUFF

GIKU (GULP)

AKASAKA ...

OH, I'M PERFECTLY FINE.

I'M GLAD...

...THAT BOY WAS SAFE, SIR.

I'M GLAD, SIR.

NOW YOU CAN GO BACK TO TOKYO.

HOW DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT...?

H-

I SEE...

IT'S JUST LIKE OOISHI-SAN SAID.

SO THAT'S HOW IT IS...

THIS GIRL... NO...

EVERYONE IN THE VILLAGE KNEW.

THAT'S HOW IT IS ...

.....

RIKA-CHAN...

YOU KNEW EVERYTHING, DIDN'T YOU?

...IN THIS VILLAGE OF HINA-MIZAWA...

KURU (SPIN)

...THE ODDS OF YOUR LEAVING THIS VILLAGE ALIVE, AKASAKA...

...WERE CERTAINLY NOT HIGH, SIR.

.....

...I'M HAPPY THAT YOU CAN LEAVE THE VILLAGE ALIVE, SIR.

THAT'S WHY...

.....

I DON'T WANT YOU TO DIE, AKASAKA.

I SAVED YOUR LIFE.

YOU SHOULD THANK ME, SIR.

...MIGHT BE TRUE...

THAT...

ZAAA (WHOOOSH)

I WAS THEIR ENEMY, AND SHE WARNED ME.

TA (SKIP)

RIKA-CHAN.

IT'S POS-SIBLE ...

...THAT SHE TRIED TO HELP ME IN OTHER WAYS TOO...

.....

THANK YOU.

鬼ヶ淵死守

AWNING: ONIGAFUCHI DEFENSE

SEE?

IT'S A BORING FESTIVAL.

IT'S TRUE THAT IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A FESTIVAL.

HA HA...

THIS FESTIVAL HAS BEEN HERE SINCE LONG, LONG AGO.

IT'S COMPLETELY GONE DOWN-HILL.

THIS DOES LOOK MORE LIKE A NEIGHBOR-HOOD GET-TOGETHER ...

THAN A FESTIVAL.

I FEEL SORRY FOR THE GOD IT'S SUPPOSED TO HONOR.

.....

IN FIVE OR SIX YEARS...

...EVERYONE IN THE VILLAGE WILL COME.

IT WILL BE A FINE FESTIVAL THAT EVEN HAS A PROPER RELIGIOUS CEREMONY, SIR.

SIGNS (L-R): OKONOMIYAKI / SHOOTING GALLERY / GOLDFISH SCOOP / APPLES

RIKA-CHAN ...?

NIPA (BEAM)

WE'RE GOING TO TALK A LITTLE IN THE PLACE WITH THE NICE VIEW.

AKASAKA!

TA (SKID)

OKAY...

...IT'S JUST LIKE YOU SAID, RIKA-CHAN.

...THE VILLAGE LOOKS VERY CALM AND QUIET, SIR.

WHEN YOU LOOK AT IT FROM HERE...

THE MINISTER OF CONSTRUCTION COMPLIED WITH THE KIDNAPPERS' DEMANDS.

THIS VILLAGE WON'T END UP AT THE BOTTOM OF A LAKE...

YOU KNEW, DIDN'T YOU?

THE DAM PROJECT WAS STOPPED ...

BUT YOU WERE THE ONE WHO SAVED HIS GRANDSON, AKASAKA.

YOU WORKED VERY HARD, SIR. ♡

HA HA...

.....

NIPA (BEAM)

I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND HARD THINGS, SIR.

NOW THIS VILLAGE WILL BE PEACEFUL AGAIN.

...BUT I'M GLAD.

ABOUT WHAT, SIR?

PEACEFUL?

THIS VILLAGE...?

...RIKA-CHAN?

SNICKER

...EVERY YEAR FROM NOW?

EVEN THOUGH THERE WILL BE BLOOD...

YOU KNOW...

WHA...?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT...

...RIKA-CHAN?

...IN A FEW YEARS...

...I'M GOING TO BE KILLED.

BUT MOST LIKELY ...

Y-

YOU'LL BE KILLED ...?

IT'S A VERY UN-PLEASANT IDEA.

...IT CAN'T BE CHANGED.

CHAPTER 8: PARTING

WHY...?

YOU, RIKA-CHAN?

YOU'LL BE KILLED...?

IT'S A VERY UNPLEASANT IDEA.

CAN'T BE CHANGED ...?

WHO SAYS IT CAN'T BE CHANGED?

WHO ...?

BUT MOST LIKELY, IT CAN'T BE CHANGED.

WHO'S PLANNING THIS?

I WISH I KNEW.

WHO WILL...

RIKA-CHAN...

GYU (CLENCH)

YES.

.....

ARE YOU SAYING...

KA (CLACK)

THE MINISTER'S GRANDSON HAS BEEN SET FREE.

...THIS CASE STILL ISN'T OVER?

AND THE DAM WON'T SINK THE VILLAGE ANYMORE...

WHAT HAPPENED HERE... YES.

IT'S NOTHING MORE THAN SOMETHING THEY DID TO KILL TIME.

THIS IS NOWHERE NEAR THE END...

IT HASN'T EVEN BEGUN.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU KNOW...

...OR WHAT'S MAKING YOU NERVOUS ...

RIKA-CHAN.

YOU DON'T KNOW...

BUT YOU SHOULDN'T JUST TOSS AROUND...

THIS VILLAGE IS FULL...

...OF MURDERERS AND PEOPLE WHO THINK NOTHING OF HUMAN LIFE.

?

...THE IDEA THAT YOU'RE GOING TO BE KILLED.

FIRST, NEXT YEAR...

...ON THIS DAY IN 1979...

...THE CURRENT DIRECTOR OF THE DAM PROJECT WILL BE KILLED AND CUT INTO PIECES.

!?

RIKA-CHAN.

YOU'RE MAKING ME ANGRY.

THE DIREC-TOR...?

OF THE DAM CON-STRUC-TION?

THEY'RE ALREADY STOPPING CONSTRUC-TION ON THE DAM...

...SO WHY WOULD HE BE KILLED?

FUSA (RUSTLE)

THE NEXT YEAR...

ON THIS DAY IN JUNE, 1980...

...
"SATOKO'S" PARENTS WILL DIE.

ON THIS DAY IN THE NEXT YEAR, 1981...

...MY PARENTS WILL BE KILLED.

...PERHAPS I SHOULD CALL IT AN ACCIDENT.

A VERY UN-FORTUNATE ACCIDENT ...

ON THIS DAY IN THE NEXT YEAR, 1982...

...SATOKO'S MALICIOUS AUNT WILL HAVE HER HEAD SPLIT OPEN, AND SHE WILL DIE.

THEY...

WE CAN ASSUME THAT ALL THE DEATHS THAT WILL HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE ...

...WILL BE FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF THOSE WHO RULE THIS VILLAGE...

...WILL DO ANYTHING TO ACCOMPLISH THEIR GOAL.

IN THE NEXT YEAR, 1983...
...ON THIS DAY IN JUNE...
...AND...
...OR MAYBE A FEW DAYS AFTER...

HUFF

HUFF

I WILL BE KILLED.

...AND THEN...

THEY'LL COVER MY MOUTH WITH SOME-THING ...

...MY CON-SCIOUS-NESS WILL FADE...

...MY LIFE WILL BE OVER...

HOW...

.....

HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?

.....

POCHA (SPLISH)

I DIDN'T *WANT* TO KNOW...

7 SU (SHFF)

BUT I SEE THOSE THINGS...

WHETHER I WANT TO OR NOT.

OVER...

SU (SHFF)

...AND OVER...

ACTUALLY, I WASN'T GOING TO TELL YOU...

TOPON (SPLOOSH)

...BUT...

...I WANTED TO TRY THROWING PEBBLES ONTO THE WATER'S SURFACE...

ALTHOUGH IT MIGHT NOT CHANGE ANYTHING.

...TO ERASE THE REFLECTION OF THE MOON— OF DEATH.

RIKA-CHAN...

SUH (STAND)

AKASAKA ...

THAT'S ALL.

I DON'T WANT ANYTHING MORE THAN THAT...

RIKA-CHAN...

I WANT TO HAVE FUN DAYS...

...SURROUNDED BY THE FRIENDS THAT I LOVE.

...I WANT TO LIVE.

RIKA-CHAN—

AKA-SAKA-SAN!!

ZA (CRUNCH)

RI...

I DON'T WANT TO DIE.

HERE YOU ARE...

AH...MY APOLOGIES.

HUFF

HUFF

OOISHI-SAN...

HUFF

I SHOULDN'T HAVE LEFT THE CLINIC LIKE THAT...

I MEANT TO GO RIGHT BACK, BUT—

GABA (LUNGE)

!?

JUST A— OOISHI-SAN!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO MAD...

AKASAKA-SAN!

A LITTLE WHILE AGO...

GUH (CLENCH)

PLEASE STAY CALM WHILE I TELL YOU THIS...

...YUKIE AKASAKA-SAN PASSED AWAY.

SHE FELL DOWN THE STAIRS AT THE HOSPITAL ...

YOU NEED TO HURRY BACK TO TOKYO QUI...

...

EH?

YUKIE ...?

GO BACK TO TOKYO.

THAT'S WHAT SHE MEANT.

I SEE...

THE WARNING WASN'T ABOUT MY FIGHT WITH THE KIDNAPPERS...

GYU CLENCH

YOU WILL DEEPLY REGRET HAVING COME TO THIS VILLAGE.

IF I HAD GONE STRAIGHT BACK TO TOKYO...

...THEN YUKIE...

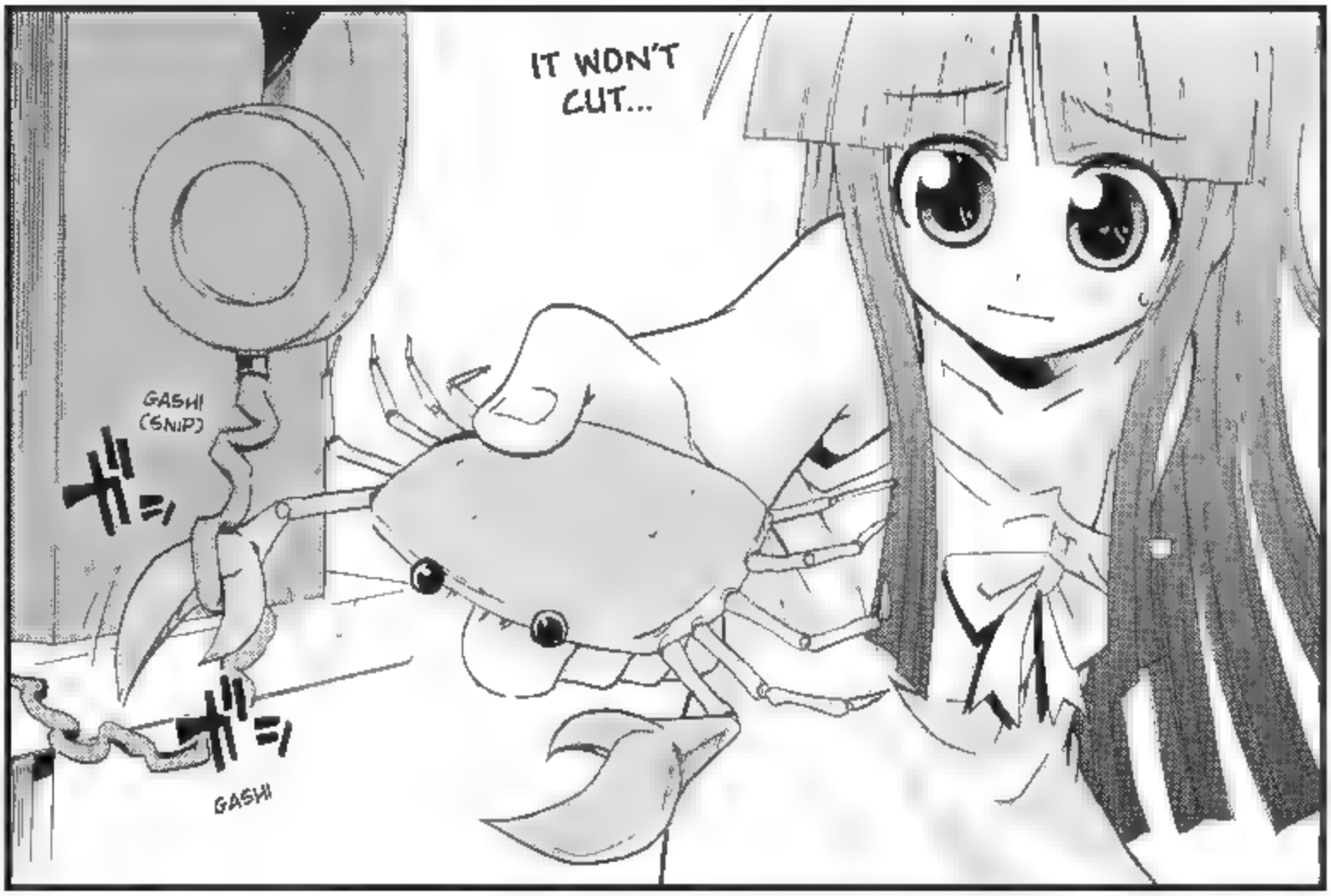
IF I HAD LISTENED ...

...WHEN RIKA-CHAN WARNED ME...

AAAAAHHHHHHHH!!!

YUKIE WOULD NOT HAVE DIED?

AH...


IT WON'T CUT...
GASHI (SNIP)
GASHI

FINAL CHAPTER: DETERMINATION

WHY ...?

GU CHUTCH

YU...

YUKIE ...?

NO ...

IT CAN'T BE TRUE ...

URK ...

BA (JUMP)

ZUZU (ZHZH)

YOU PROM-ISED ME....

PETA (GRAB)

...YOU WOULD COME BACK...

I WARNED YOU, DIDN'T I?

...THIS WOULD NOT HAVE HAPPENED.

NO

PETA (CLING)

RIKA-CHAN ...

IF YOU HAD GONE BACK TO TOKYO WHEN I TOLD YOU TO...

MIYUKI...

DID YOU HAVE A SCARY DREAM?

PAPA.

ARE YOU OKAY?

WE'RE ALMOST AT HOKKAIDO.

...OH, MAN.

THAT WAS SEVEN YEARS AGO...

IT'S SO BIG!

IT'S NICE AND COOL!

SQUEE SQUEE

HOKKAIDO SURE IS AMAZING, HUH!

... IS IT NOW.

NN-FU-FU.

IT'S A NICE PLACE, ISN'T IT?

I'M SO HIGH UP!

DOOON (DA-DUN)

.....

NN FU FU.

IT HAS BEEN A WHILE!

HA HA.

I'VE BEEN HEARING ABOUT YOUR WORK...

OOISHI-SAN!

WOW...

HOW MANY YEARS HAS IT BEEN?

MI-YUKI!

NNGH...

BE POLITE AND SAY HELLO!

WHEN DID SHE GET THERE...?

GYU (SQUEEZE)

OH?

BIKU (WINCE)

I DO HAVE A SCARY FACE, AFTER ALL.

SHE'S NOT USUALLY LIKE THIS...

NN-FU-FU. SHE CAN'T HELP IT.

KUSHA (RUFFLE)

WOULD YOU MIND TELLING ME YOUR NAME?

...MIYUKI AKASAKA.

I'M SEVEN YEARS OLD.

IT'S ONLY BEEN A YEAR SINCE I RETIRED.

BUT I LOVE IT HERE IN HOKKAIDO.

THE SCENERY'S NICE...

THE AIR AND THE FOOD ARE DELICIOUS...

AND MORE THAN ANYTHING, NORTHERN LANDS HAVE A LOT OF BEAUTIFUL WOMEN.

NN-FU-FU.

KADOON (KA-CLACK)

...BESIDES...

GYU (SQUEEZE)

IT HELPS ME FORGET...

...ALL THE HARD TIMES AND THE SADNESS.

SEVEN YEARS OLD ALREADY ...

SHE'S A GOOD, ENERGETIC GIRL.

...YES.

...BACK THEN...

...THE NIGHT WE FOUND OUT ABOUT YUKIE-SAN'S DEATH...

YOU WERE IN TERRIBLE SHAPE...

THAT'S HOW BAD YOU WERE...

BUT YOU KEPT GOING.

I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT GO AFTER HER.

YOU COULDN'T EVEN MOVE ON YOUR OWN.

YOU WERE SUCH A MESS I COULD HARDLY LOOK AT YOU...

...YES.

BECAUSE MIYUKI...

...LIVED...

...IN THE HOSPITAL WHERE YUKIE DIED, TRYING DESPERATELY TO LIVE...

...I REALIZED.

BACK THEN, ALL I COULD SEE WAS DESPAIR.

BUT SEEING MIYUKI...

YOU MIGHT BE RIGHT...

YUKIE ...

BUT...

ACTUALLY, I MEANT...

...TO COME SEE YOU SOONER.

...PROTECTED HER..

YOU COULDN'T STOP YOURSELF FROM REMEMBERING.

...BUT WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE ALL OF A SUDDEN?

DO YOU HAVE BUSINESS HERE IN HOKKAIDO?

.....

BUT YOU CAME ANYWAY.

I'M GLAD YOU DID.

...OOISHI-SAN.

MMPH!

WH-WHAT'S WRONG?

I...

PURU (SHAKE)

PURU

JAAAA (FLUUUSH)

NGH ....!

Y- YES, SIR!

OOISHI- SAN, PLEASE HURRY!

PUAH

NO...

CAN YOU HOLD IT A LITTLE LONGER?

I NEED TO USE THE POTTY ...

JAAA (FSSSH)

GOSHI (SCRUB)

GOSHI (SCRUB)

JAAA (FSSSH)

SHE'S BEEN BROUGHT UP WELL.

NN-FU-FU.

I'M SURE SHE MUST MISS HAVING HER MOTHER...

MY IN-LAWS TAKE CARE OF HER MOST OF THE TIME.

IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE DOING A GOOD JOB.

~~~~

WHAT IS THAT ...?

~~~~

...I SEE.

JAAAA (FSSSHH)

...BUT SHE'S ALWAYS GIVING ME ENCOUR-AGEMENT.

IT WAS EXACTLY TWO YEARS AGO TODAY...

RIGHT...

...THAT HINAMIZAWA VILLAGE WAS DESTROYED.

空前のガス災害から2年

雛見沢は今？

TV: HINAMIZAWA TODAY/ TWO YEARS AFTER THE UNPRECEDENTED GAS OUTBREAK

Yes...

The first time in recent memory that a natural disaster has claimed more than one thousand victims.

The Great Hina-mizawa Disas-ter.

SIGN: NO TRESPASSING

.....

And planes are forbidden from flying over it.

Even now, two years later, no one is allowed inside.

立入禁止

The disaster was caused by strong poisonous volcanic fumes.

....SOME-TIMES I'LL THINK ...

... RECENTLY ...

7 FUUU (WHEW)

GO (WHACK)

...MAYBE THOSE THREE DAYS I SPENT IN HINAMIZAWA ...

...WERE ALL A DREAM.

...YES.

PAPA!

SIGN: YUBARI / MELON / ICE

LET'S HAVE SOME OF THAT!

EVEN THAT GIRL...

A DREAM, HUH...?

But with the effects of the disaster...

...all police investigations are currently on hold.

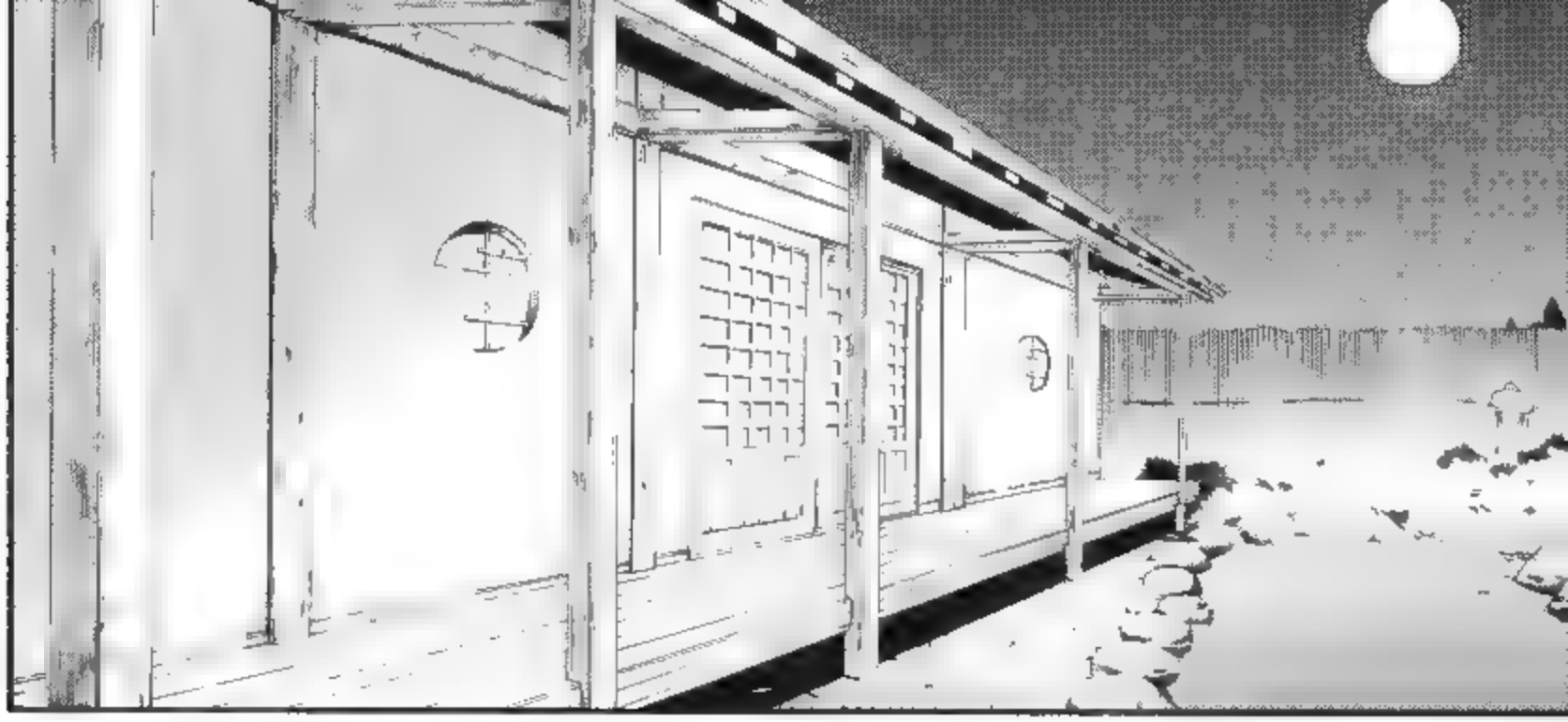
What made the village famous across the country was the uproar over the dam construction.

Then ...

Speaking of Hinamizawa Village...

BORO (CRUMBLE)

...the series of mysterious deaths that followed made headlines too.



KLIKAAA
(SNOORRRE)

SHE MUST BE TIRED FROM ALL THE FUN.
SHE HASN'T STOPPED MOVING SINCE SHE GOT HERE.

SHE'S FAST ASLEEP.
PATAN (SHUT)

WITH YOUR HELP, I WAS ABLE TO GIVE HER A GOOD SUMMER VACATION.

NN-FU-FU.

THANK YOU FOR TODAY.

.....

YOUR FACE IS COMPLETELY THAT OF A DADDY NOW.

YOU REALLY HAVE CHANGED, AKASAKA-SAN.

IT'S BECAUSE I HAVE TO WORK HARD ENOUGH FOR MYSELF AND HER MOTHER.

SOMEONE FROM THE HOSPITAL TOLD ME...

HER FOOT SLIPPED ON THE STAIRS?

...THAT WAS A TERRIBLE ACCIDENT.

...AND PRAY FOR MY SAFETY.

...SHE WOULD GO UP ONTO THE ROOF AT NIGHT...

...ON DAYS WHEN SHE DIDN'T GET A CALL FROM ME ...

IF I HAD GONE STRAIGHT BACK TO TOKYO...

KOTO (CLINK)

IS THAT SO...

YOU'RE JUMPING TO CONCLU-SIONS!

.....

I HAD BEEN WARNED.

...YUKIE WOULDN'T HAVE DIED.

JUST A...

AKASAKA-SAN!

YOU TOLD ME BACK IN HINAMIZAWA...

...THAT SHE COULD FORETELL THE FUTURE ...

WARNED? BY WHOM?

RIKA FURUDE FORESAW IT.

YUKIE'S ACCIDENT ...

...BUT IF I MAY?

LET'S ASSUME THAT, AS YOU SAY, RIKA FURUDE COULD SEE THE FUTURE.

GUSHA (SMOOSH)

NA-FU-FU!

OOISHI-SAN! THIS ISN'T FUNNY ...

NO, NO, I'M SORRY.

THEN WHY...

...WASN'T SHE ABLE TO PREDICT THAT GAS OUTBREAK?

UM...

.....

IF SHE HAD TOLD THE VILLAGERS EVEN JUST A FEW HOURS BEFORE IT HAPPENED...

...THEN MOST OF THEM MIGHT NOT HAVE DIED.

...
WELL.

RIKA FURUDE WAS SAID TO BE THE REINCARNATION ...

...OF HINAMI-ZAWA'S GUARDIAN DEITY, OYASHIRO-SAMA.

KUI (GULP)

AND SHE WAS KILLED, INCURRING THE GOD'S WRATH.

...I MAY HAVE HEARD A THEORY THAT GOES LIKE THAT.

KYU-GATA (CLATTER)

W-WAIT A SECOND!

KILLED !?

TH-THIS IS OFF THE RECORD...

...BUT RIKA FURUDE WAS KILLED BEFORE THE DISASTER.

RIKA-CHAN ...

...DIDN'T DIE IN THE GAS OUT-BREAK...?

SHE WAS DRUGGED INTO A COMA, AND HER ABDOMEN WAS SLIT OPEN WHILE SHE WAS STILL ALIVE.

HER INTESTINES WERE METHODICALLY SPLAYED OUT IN ALL DIRECTIONS.

OOISHI-SAN...

SU (LIFT)

YES?

THAT'S INHUMAN...

HOW COULD ANY-ONE...?

THAT GIRL PREDICTED THAT SHE WOULD BE KILLED.

!?

AND NOT ONLY THAT...

GA (WHACK)

IS THAT TRUE!?

OYASSAN'S MURDER...?

IMPOS-SIBLE...

THE MUTILATION IN 1979...

THE DEATH OF SATOKO HOJO'S AUNT IN '82...

AND...

THE DEATH OF RIKA-CHAN'S PARENTS IN '81...

THE DEATH OF SATOKO HOJO'S PARENTS IN 1980...

THAT'S ...

...THE ENTIRE SERIES OF BIZARRE DEATHS UP TO 1983...?

PA (RELEASE)

THEN...

...HER OWN DEATH IN 1983...

...BUT...

...IN THAT CASE, WHY...

DOSA (THUD)

...THE SCENARIO HAD BEEN LAID OUT FOR ALL OF THE INCIDENTS YEARS BEFORE THEY HAPPENED...?

IMPOS-SIBLE...

...DIDN'T RIKA FURUDE RUN AWAY?

WHY DID SHE ACCEPT IT WITHOUT A FIGHT...?

SHE COULD HAVE RUN OR GONE FOR HELP.

...EH?

SHE HAD YEARS BEFORE SHE WAS TO BE KILLED...

I WANT TO LIVE ...

...HAD SHE GIVEN UP ON LIFE...?

OR...

NO...

AKA-SAKA... SAN?

CHIRI

CHIRI (CLENCH)

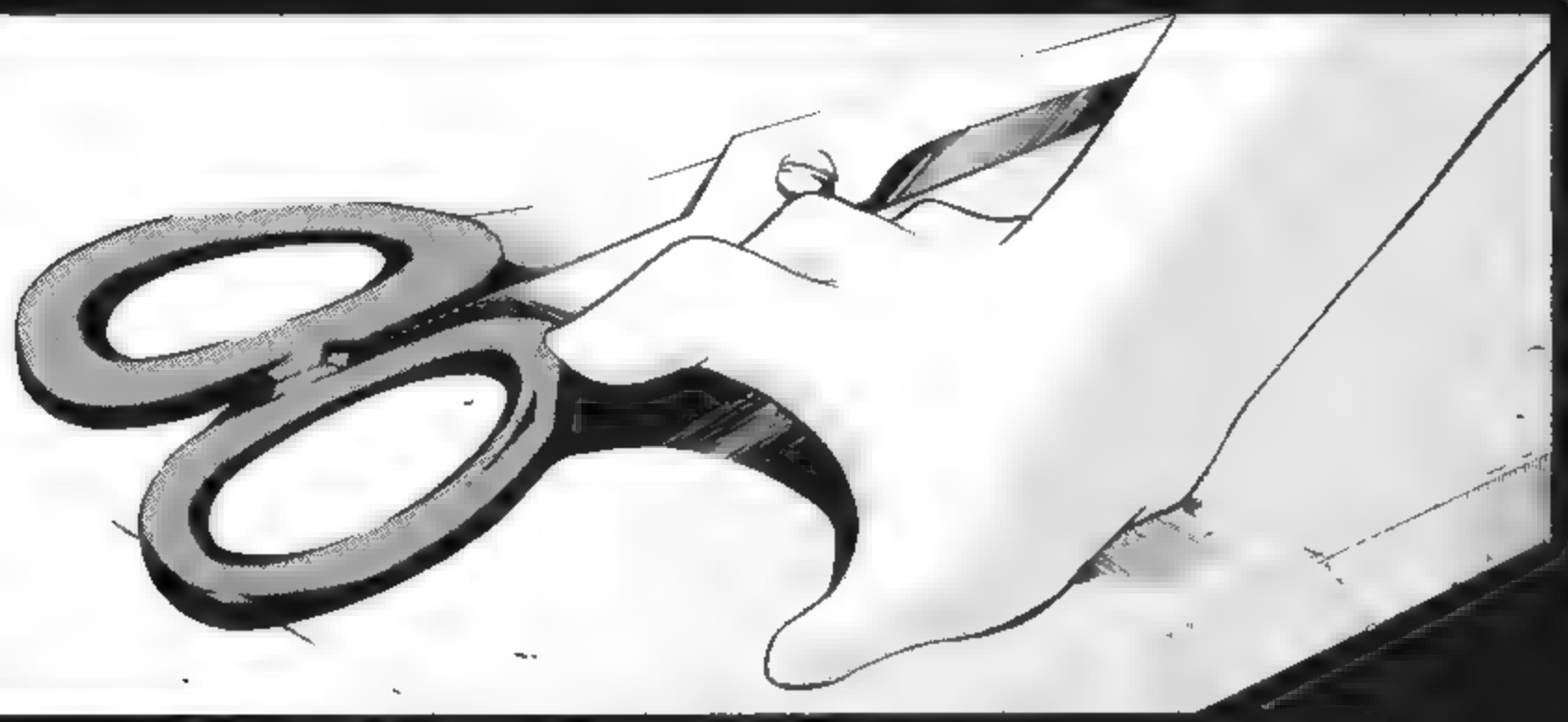
GO (WHAM)

...TO ERASE THE REFLECTION OF THE MOON— OF DEATH.

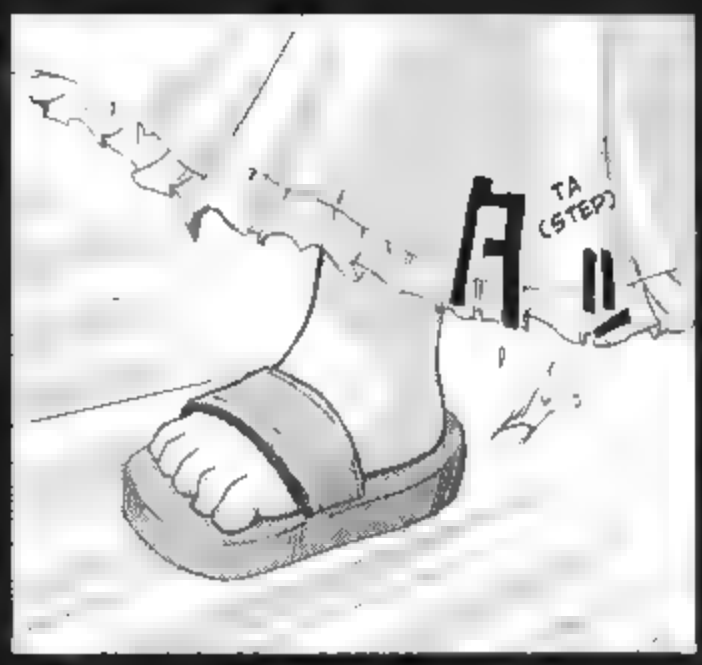
I WANTED TO TRY THROWING PEBBLES ONTO THE WATER'S SURFACE...

SHE DIDN'T ACCEPT HER DEATH.

IF I HAD LEARNED ABOUT YUKIE'S DEATH IMMEDIATELY...



...I WOULD HAVE BEEN SO CRUSHED WITH DESPAIR THAT I WOULDN'T HAVE LISTENED.



THAT'S WHY SHE...

SHE WANTED A LITTLE BIT OF TIME TO ASK FOR HELP...

SHE...

SHE ...!!

POTA

POTA (DROP)

PORO

PORO (DRIP)

SHE WAS SO DESPERATE...

SHE WANTED TO LIVE.

IF I HAD LISTENED TO WHAT SHE TOLD ME...

IF I HAD BEEN THERE IN JUNE OF 1983...

HUFF

HUFF

I COULD HAVE PROTECTED HER...
I'M SURE I COULD HAVE SAVED HER LIFE.

DOGA (CRASH)

AKA-SAKA-SAN...

SHE CAME TO ME FOR HELP.

WHA...

WHAT'S THE MATTER!?

AAAAAHHHH!!

I DIDN'T REALIZE...

GARI (SCRATCH)

BUT...

AND I DIDN'T REALIZE THAT EITHER.

BORO (SOB)

SHE TOLD ME ABOUT YUKIE'S DEATH.

AND I COULD HAVE STOPPED THE DEATH OF THE GIRL WHO SAVED MY LIFE...

...I COULD HAVE STOPPED YUKIE'S ACCIDENT.

IF I HAD TAKEN HER WARNING SERIOUSLY...

RIKA-CHAN ...

...WAS COUNTING ON ME TO SAVE HER...!!

AKASAKA-SAN.

GYU (CLENCH)

.....

I...

GO (WHAM)

YORO (STAGGER)

O-OOISHI-SAN!?

GAH ...!?

ZUZAZA SKIIID

IF YOU WANT TO TAKE THE BLAME, I'LL HIT YOU AS MANY TIMES AS IT TAKES.

BUT...

BUT...

THINGS... I CAN DO?

...THERE ARE OTHER THINGS YOU CAN DO.

...SHE'S ALREADY DEAD!

I COULDN'T SAVE HER...

AND SO BRUTALLY ...

THAT'S RIGHT.

YOU COULDN'T SAVE HER BECAUSE YOU WERE A GREEN-HORN.

URK ...

...NOW YOU'RE DIFFERENT!

GA (GRAB)

BUT...

LET'S UNCOVER THE WHOLE TRUTH.

IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE, THEN ALL OF THE INCIDENTS WERE PLANNED.

AND THAT CHANGES EVERYTHING ABOUT HOW WE INVESTIGATE THEM.

UN-COVER ...?

I'VE BEEN TO THE SITES OF EVERY ONE OF THOSE BIZARRE DEATHS.

TO-GETHER...

WE CAN FIND THE WHOLE TRUTH...?

AND RIKA FURUDE REVEALED THE TRUTH TO YOU. TOGETHER...

SU (APPEAR)

SU (REACH)

OH, I'M JUST...

PETA (SIT)

GOSHI (WIPE)

GOSHI

MIYUKI...

MUNYA (SLEEPY)

DID YOU HAVE ANOTHER SCARY DREAM?

PAPA... ARE YOU CRYING?

ARE YOU OKAY?

EH!?

ギュッ GYU (SQUEEZE)

HEY...! PAPA!

THERE'S MORE TO THAT SERIES OF MYSTERIOUS DEATHS...

SUH (STAND)

AKA-SAKA-SAN.

ON THE NIGHT OF THE COTTON DRIFTING OF SHOUWA 1983...

THE NEXT DAY, THE DOCTOR KILLED HIMSELF.

A MALE PHOTOGRAPHER MET WITH A SUSPICIOUS DEATH, AND HIS GIRLFRIEND BURNED TO DEATH...

AND...

GYU (CLENCH)

ONE OF MY MEN...

FOR THAT GIRL TOO...

...WE'LL KEEP THE INVESTIGA-TIONS GOING!

...YES.

MM!

...PAPA, WHO'S "THAT GIRL"?

I WON'T LET IT BE OVER!

BUT ...

...EVERYTHING IS STARTING TO GET HAZY IN LIGHT OF THE GREAT DISASTER.

EVEN SO, THE INVESTIGATION ISN'T OVER ...

NO!

BEFORE YOU WERE BORN, MIYUKI ...

...I MET A LITTLE GIRL WHO WAS LIKE AN ANGEL.

PAAA (BEAM)

AN ANGEL !?

SHE WAS CUTE AND KIND...

GOSO (RUMMAGE)

...BUT SHE WAS A VERY STRONG GIRL.

PAPA!

THEN MIYUKI...

WOOOW!

SU (PLACE)

...YEAH.

...THAT GIRL'S FRIEND!

...WANTS TO BE ...

LET'S BOTH GO TO SEE HER SOMEDAY.

GOOD IDEA...

ギュッ

GYU (SQUEEZE)

THAT SUMMER...

...WHEN THE HIGURASHI WERE CRYING...

...A BOOK WAS PUBLISHED ABOUT HINAMIZAWA VILLAGE.

IN THE YEARS THAT FOL-LOWED

THE BOOK CONTAINED ALL THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SERIES OF MYSTERIOUS DEATHS, INCLUDING THOSE RIGHT BEFORE THE DISASTER.

THIS BOOK WAS RESEARCHED AND WRITTEN WITH THE HOPE THAT THE INCIDENTS WOULDN'T FADE AWAY.

THE AFTERWORD READS:

"ALONE, WE CANNOT HOPE TO UNCOVER THE TRUTH ABOUT WHY THESE TRAGEDIES OCCURRED.

WE ASK YOU WHO READ THIS BOOK TO PLEASE FIND THE TRUTH.

THAT IS OUR ONE WISH."

BOOK: HIGURASHI WHEN THEY CRY / MAMORU AKASAKA/ KURAUDO OOISHI

TIME KILLING ARC FIN

©07th Expansion/Yasuo Ohtagaki, Takayuki Tatsumi & Ei Aoi/Kodansha, "HIGURASHI WHEN THEY CRY."

ABOUT THE "TIME KILLING ARC" A STORY THAT CANNOT BE OMITTED

ORIGINAL STORY, SUPERVISOR: RYUKISHI07

TONOGAI-SENSEI, THANK YOU FOR BREATHING SOUL INTO THE "TIME KILLING ARC"!

THE ORIGINAL "TIME KILLING ARC" IS ONLY HALF AS LONG AS THE OTHER SCENARIOS, BUT IT'S AN IMPORTANT ONE THAT WRAPS UP THE QUESTION ARCS, THE FIRST HALF OF "HIGURASHI WHEN THEY CRY." TONOGAI-SENSEI TOOK THAT AND SKILLFULLY LIVENED IT UP IN A WAY THAT CAN ONLY BE DONE IN MANGA, TREATING THE TIMING AND MOOD WITH CARE. I FEEL LIKE I'VE GIVEN THE HAND OF MY DAUGHTER—THE ORIGINAL STORY—TO A WONDERFUL HUSBAND.

THE "TIME KILLING ARC" SERVES AS THE FOURTH OF THE EIGHT STORIES AND IS IN AN IMPORTANT FIXED POSITION, HOLDING RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE STORY'S TURNING POINT. ACTUALLY, I HADN'T THOUGHT OF THAT WHEN I STARTED WRITING. IN FACT, WHEN I FINISHED THE "CURSE KILLING ARC," I WENT IMMEDIATELY INTO WRITING THE "EYE OPENING ARC." THE SCENE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE "EYE OPENING ARC" WHERE SHION RUNS AWAY WAS WRITTEN BEFORE THE "TIME KILLING ARC." THE BIGGEST REASON FOR THIS ARC IS THAT I WAS SWAMPED WITH MY OTHER JOB, AND I COULDN'T SPARE ENOUGH TIME TO RELEASE THE "EYE OPENING ARC."

AND SO I CAME UP WITH THE IDEA TO WRITE A SHORT, CURVEBALL KIND OF EPISODE WHENEVER I HAD A MINUTE. BUT WHEN I FINISHED IT, IT WAS FAR FROM A SHORT, CURVEBALL STORY. IT WAS A STRAIGHT PITCH RIGHT DOWN THE MIDDLE WITH A FULL COUNT—AN IMPORTANT EPISODE THAT WRAPS UP THE QUESTION ARCS. UNLIKE WHAT I HAD ORIGINALLY PLANNED, I CAN NOW SAY WITH CONFIDENCE THAT THIS FOURTH STORY IS ABSOLUTELY INDISPENSABLE.

WITH THIS ARC, WE CAN FINALLY TURN BACK AROUND IN THE LONG STORY THAT IS "HIGURASHI WHEN THEY CRY." I WONDER IF YOU'RE ALL THINKING OF ANSWERS, LIKE, MAYBE THIS IS THE TRUTH... OR MAYBE THIS...? YOU CAN FINALLY CHECK YOUR ANSWERS STARTING WITH THE "EYE OPENING ARC" AND THE "ATONEMENT ARC." I HOPE YOU WILL ALL CONTINUE TO ENJOY THE WORLD OF "HIGURASHI."

BOTTLE: TENNINSHI

SPECIAL THANKS

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TRANSLATION NOTES

Pg. 22
"Will we get a demon or a snake...?" is a Japanese expression used when there's no telling what could happen, but either way it will probably give one a good scare.

Pg. 73
The **"sun disc"** is a reference to the red circle on the Japanese flag, indicating that Ooishi and Akasaka both work for the government. In other words, they've both fulfilled their duties, and it's not Akasaka's fault that things have turned out unfavorably.

Pg. 186
A **yubari melon** is a delicacy grown in Hokkaido. Similar in color and appearance to a cantaloupe, a yubari melon is commonly given as a summertime gift. The best melons can cost upwards of $200.

HIGURASHI
WHEN THEY CRY
TIME KILLING ARC ❷

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This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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